

# TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY

5805 N LAMAR BLVD • BOX 4087 • AUSTIN, TEXAS 78773-0001

512/424-2000

[www.dps.texas.gov](http://www.dps.texas.gov)



STEVEN C. McCRAW  
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COMMISSION  
A. CYNTHIA LEON, CHAIR  
CARIN MARCY BARTH  
ADA BROWN  
ALLAN B. POLUNSKY

December 11, 2012

## **Via Email**

Shawn Musgrave  
MuckRock News  
2221-30023768@requests.muckrock.com

RE: Public Information Request for drone information (PIR # 12-3969)

Mr. Musgrave:

The Department received your above-referenced request on November 27, 2012. The Department has located records responsive to your request; however, we believe some or all of the records may be excepted from required public disclosure at this time. We are seeking a ruling from the attorney general's office with respect to disclosure of these records, and a copy of our request letter is enclosed. You will be notified directly by the attorney general's office when a ruling is issued.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please submit them in writing via facsimile to (512) 424-5716, via email to [OGC.Webmaster@dps.texas.gov](mailto:OGC.Webmaster@dps.texas.gov), via mail to the address in the letterhead, or in person at our offices at 5805 N. Lamar Blvd. in Austin. Thank you.

Cordially,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Molly Cost".

Molly Cost  
Assistant General Counsel

cc: The Honorable Greg Abbott  
Attorney General of Texas  
Open Records Division  
209 West 14th Street, 6th Floor  
Austin, Texas 78701

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December 11, 2012

## **Via Hand Delivery**

The Honorable Greg Abbott  
Attorney General of Texas  
Open Records Division  
209 West 14th Street, 6th Floor  
Austin, Texas 78701

RE: Public Information Request for drone information (PIR # 12-3969)

**DATE REQUEST FOR INFORMATION RECEIVED:**

**11/27/2012**

**DATE REQUEST FOR RULING SUBMITTED TO ATTORNEY GENERAL:**

**12/11/2012**

Dear Attorney General Abbott:

The Department of Public Safety received the above-referenced request for information from Shawn Musgrave on November 27, 2012. We believe some or all of the requested information is excepted from required public disclosure pursuant to sections 552.101 and 552.108 of the Government Code. Accordingly, we are requesting a ruling regarding the release of these records.

Please find enclosed the request from Shawn Musgrave and the notice of our request for a ruling sent to the requestor. The responsive records or a representative sample of the records we wish to except from required disclosure will be submitted to your office no later than December 18, 2012. Please feel free to contact me at (512) 424-2890 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Molly Cost'.

Molly Cost  
Assistant General Counsel

Enclosure(s)

cc: Shawn Musgrave  
MuckRock News  
Dept MR 2221  
PO Box 55819  
Boston, MA 02205-5819  
2221-30023768@requests.muckrock.com

\\hqogcs001\ORA\2012 requests\12-3969\12-3969 (12-12-11) letter to AG

**From:** Rangers  
**Sent:** Tuesday, November 27, 2012 7:40 AM  
**To:** OGC Webmaster  
**Subject:** FW: Freedom of Information Request: Texas Dept of Public Safety, Texas Rangers Drone Documents

-----Original Message-----

From: 2221-30023768@requests.muckrock.com [mailto:2221-30023768@requests.muckrock.com]  
Sent: Monday, November 26, 2012 7:33 PM  
To: Rangers  
Subject: Freedom of Information Request: Texas Dept of Public Safety, Texas Rangers Drone Documents

November 26, 2012  
Texas Department of Public Safety, Texas Rangers PO Box 4087 Austin, Texas 78773-0600

To Whom It May Concern:

Pursuant to the Texas Public Information Act , I hereby request the following records:

1. any requests for proposals, proposals submitted by vendors, contracts, budgets or cost allocations for the purchase, research of and/or use of aerial drones, UAs, UAVs, and UASs (hereinafter "drones");
2. any policies, guidelines, manuals and/or instructions on institutional use of drones, including on the legal process required (such as a warrant or court order), if any, before operating a drone;
3. any departmental records concerning this institution's use of and/or research of drones now or plans to use drones in the future including:
  - a. the types of investigations or instances in which this department is using or plans to use drones, or how it plans to support, manage or oversee the usage of drones by another department or office;
  - b. policies, guidelines, manuals and/or instructions on storage requirements or procedures for video or static images obtained through use of drones, including retention times;
  - c. the altitude at which drones can or do fly;
  - d. drones' ability to carry weapons.

I also request that, if appropriate, fees be waived as I believe this request is in the public interest. The requested documents will be made available to the general public free of charge as part of the public information service at MuckRock.com, processed by a representative of the news media/press and is made in the process of news gathering and not for commercial usage.

In the event that fees cannot be waived, I would be grateful if you would inform me of the total charges in advance of fulfilling my request. I would prefer the request filled electronically, by e-mail attachment if available or CD-ROM if not.

Thank you in advance for your anticipated cooperation in this matter. I look forward to receiving your response to this request within 10 business days, as the statute requires.

Sincerely,

Shawn Musgrave

Filed via MuckRock.com

E-mail (Preferred): 2221-30023768@requests.muckrock.com

For mailed responses, please address (see note):

MuckRock News

DEPT MR 2221

PO Box 55819

Boston, MA 02205-5819

PLEASE NOTE the new address as well as the fact that improperly addressed (i.e., with the requester's name rather than MuckRock News) requests might be returned by the USPS as undeliverable.